

Serial No. 10/664,968

H-963-02

**IN THE DRAWING**

The Applicants submit six (6) sheets of corrected formal drawings (Figs. 9-12 and 13A-13B), in response to the Examiner's objection indicated in the Office Action. A transmittal of Corrected Formal Drawings is being filed concurrently herewith.

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REMARKS

The Applicants request reconsideration of the rejection.

Claims 12-31 are pending.

The Examiner objected to Figs. 9-12 and 13A-13B, requiring them to bear a "Prior Art" legend. Accompanying this Reply is a Transmittal of Corrected Formal Drawings with new figures amended as required.

Claims 12-14 and 17-31 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over the Admitted Prior Art (APA) in view of Bando, et al., US 6,700,792 (Bando) and Bowyer, et al., US 6,313,874 (Bowyer). The Applicants traverse as follows.

A fundamental feature of the inventive communication semiconductor integrated circuit device is the provision of the transmission unit, reception unit, and protection unit on the same semiconductor chip. As set forth on page 8, line 22 to page 10, line 7 of the specification, prior art attempts to incorporate a protection circuit (e.g., designated by reference numeral 41 in Fig. 10) in a one-chip IC have suffered from signal distortion, low gain, and overcurrent problems.

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The protection unit that contributes to solving these problems, as set forth in claim 12, has a first protection circuit coupled between a first voltage line and a terminal coupled to a low noise amplifier transistor, allowing current to flow from the first voltage line to the terminal at a protection time against an electrostatic breakdown, and a second protection circuit coupled between a second voltage line and the terminal, allowing current to flow from the terminal to the second voltage line at a protection time against an electrostatic breakdown.

However, none of the APA, Bando, or Bowyer teaches these structural features on the same semiconductor chip. In addition, because the prior art disclosed in the cited references does not recognize the problem solved by the present invention, there is no suggestion or motivation to modify their teachings to reach the claimed invention.

Claims 15-16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over APA in view of Bando, Bowyer, and Lu, et al., US 4,989,057 (Lu). While Lu shows four protection circuits, however, Lu's first and third protection circuits 54, 62 conduct

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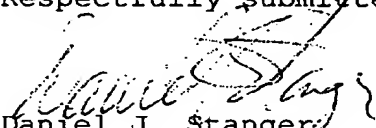
current in the same way, whereas claims 15 and 16 require the first and third protection circuits to be constructed to conduct current differently from each other. Similarly, Lu's second and fourth protection circuits 56, 64 conduct current in the same way, but claims 15 and 16 require current flowing in the second and fourth protection circuits to be directed in mutually opposite directions.

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In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the Applicants request reconsideration of the rejection and allowance of the claims.

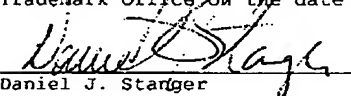
Respectfully submitted,

  
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CERTIFICATION OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this Reply is being facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below:

  
Daniel J. Stanger

3/3/05  
Date